

Alameda County Sheriff's Office

Gregory J. Ahern, Sheriff / Coroner Coroner's Bureau, 2901 Peralta Oaks Ct, Oakland, CA 94605 (510) 382-3000 / (510) 382-3033 (fax)

Coroner Investigator's Report

0	NAME OF DECEASED (LAST, FIRST MIDDLE) RODRIGUEZ, Antonio						TENTATIVE ID UNIDENTIFIED					CASE NUMBER		
CALL INFO									2017-02148					
	REPORTED BY			REPORTED BY PHO	ONE NO.	REPORTING AGENCY						REFERENCE NUMBER		
	Sgt. Buckout			(510) 667-364		Alameda County Sheriff's Office				Office-E7	ice-ETS 17-011699			
3	INVESTIGATOR			CALL DATE AND TIME			CASE TYPE,							
	Rebecca Lorenzana			7/6/2017 18:19 DATE OF BIRTH AGE			Removal Case					OTATIO	LVETO	
DECEDENT					AGE					MARITAL STATUS VET? Never Married			VET?	
	7/6/2017 17:17 HGT WGT EYE COLOR			2/17/1990 HAIR COLOR	27 Years				EMPLOYE					
	69	135	Brown					LIWITEOTE						
	09	133	DIOWII	Black	LAborer									
	Preliminary Summary													
	LOCATION OF DEATH Santa Rita Jail										LOD TYPE Other			
	ADDRESS (STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP)													
	5325 B	roder B	lvd Dublin CA		Alameda									
	Manner	Hon	nicide		Death Co	Certificate Signed By:								
TH	Cause A MANUAL STRANGULATION										Interval Minutes			
DEATH	Cause B										Interval			
	Cause C										Interval			
	Cause D										Interval			
		Significa	SCAI	LP CONTUSION	1									
NOTIFICATION	LEGAL NEX	RELATIO	RELATIONSHIP				TELEPHONE NO.							
	Rebecca		zono	METHOD			<u> </u>			DATE AND TIME				
			***************************************		In Person				7/6/2017 0:05					
ž	Finger I	DATE AN	DATE AND TIME											
	LOCATION	OF INCIDE	NT									AT WORK		
INCIDENT	Santa Rita Jail HU 9, C-10													
											DATE A	ND TIME OF INCID	ENT	
	5325 Bi	oder Bl	vd Dublin CA		Alameda			a						
	INVESTIGA	TING AGE	NCY	INV AC	INV AGENCY PHONE NUMBER			(OFFICER					
i			y Sheriff's Off		11.7				R. Lopez					
DISP	FUNERAL H				BODY RELEASED TO FUNERAL HOME ON									
	Fuller F		7/9/2017 8:10											
	Full Autopsy	/ Partial A	utopsy Inspection	pection w/Specime	en EXAM BY									
j	✓			Ц			Michael Ferenc							



Investigator Narrative

Decedent:

RODRIGUEZ, Antonio

Case Number:

2017-02148

Investigator:

Rebecca Lorenzana

First Call Information:

On Thursday, July 06, 2017, about 1819 hours, Sergeant Buckhout of the Alameda County Sheriff's Office-Santa Rita Jail called and reported the homicide of 27 year old male, Antonio Rodriguez. Rodriguez was discovered unresponsive in his cell, Housing Unit 9, cell C-10. Paramedics were summoned and Rodriguez was pronounced deceased at 1717 hours, after life saving efforts failed. There was evidence that indicated Rodriguez was possibly strangled by his cellmate, due to discoloration around Rodriguez' neck.

Rodriguez' cellmate later admitted to detectives that he had gotten into a physical altercation with Rodriguez resulting in Rodriguez being choked unconscious. (RL1702)

Medical Summary:

Rodriguez' medical history was unknown and did not appear related to his death.

Rodriguez had slight bruising to his neck, his right shoulder, and right hand where the wrist and front of the hand meet. There was also bruising to his elbows. There was bruising on the right side of his upper lip. (RL1702)

Description of the Death/Injury Scene:

Rodriguez was pronounced deceased in his cell, Housing Unit 9, cell C-10, at the Santa Rita Jail, located at 5325 Broder Boulevard, Dublin, CA.

Body Identification:

I identified Rodriguez by photo comparison to the photograph associated with Person File Number issued to Antonio Rodriguez. The photograph and physical characteristics were a match to the decedent.

I showed Rodriguez' booking photo to his mother, was of her son, Antonio Rodriguez. (RL1702)

The Alameda County Sheriff's Office-Central Identification Bureau (CIB) in Oakland conducted a fingerprint analysis of the fingerprints associated with the decedent, Rodriguez, Antonio (case #2017-02148) and the fingerprints associated with Rodriguez, Antonio; Personal File Number (PFN)



birth date February 17, 1990. The fingerprints were identified to have been made by the same subject. (DD863)

Next of Kin Investigation:

Rodriguez was neve	r married and had no children. His legal next of kin was his mother,
I notified	in person at her residence. I explained the Coroner's Bureau involvement
as well as the next of	kin's responsibility to contact a mortuary to remove the decedent from the
Coroner's Bureau.	said she understood. (RL1702)

Other Agency Reports:

Rodriguez' death occurred within the Alameda County Sheriff's Office's jurisdiction. Detective R. Lopez #1592 was assigned to investigate and report 17-0\;\)1699 was issued. (RL1702)

Property and Evidence:

I issued Coroner's receipt 38273 for Rodriguez, clothing, and toiletries he had in property at the Santa Rita Jail. (RL1702)

Coroners Fees:

The only applicable fees are the body preparation fees of \$67. Rodriguez was considered an innocent victim based on the manner in which he died. Therefore, removal fees did not apply. The fees were paid in full on July 18, 2017, by Fuller Funeral Home. Accounting receipt 8738 was issued by Administrative Assistant G. Mejorado to document the payment. A copy of the receipt was added to the case file. (RL1702)

Investigative Details:

On Thursday, July 6, 2017, about 2050 hours, Deputy Beezley and I (Lorenzana) arrived at Santa Rita Jail to make the removal of Rodriguez. We went to Housing Unit 9 and were met by Detective R. Lopez, who was inside Rodriguez' cell, C-10. Detective Lopez directed us to Rodriguez who was lying face up in the cell. Rodriguez' head faced the affixed bunk bed and his legs faced toward the cell door. His legs extended out in front of him. Rodriguez' left arm was along his side and his hand was in a closed loose fist. The left hand rested on his abdomen and was also in a loose fist.

Rodriguez wore green and white striped jail issued pants and a brown t-shirt. The shirt had been cut down the middle by medical personnel during resuscitative efforts. Rodriguez had medical therapy in place such as a defibrillator pad on his chest and there was a plastic piece in his mouth between his front teeth. Some of the used medical therapy had been removed prior to our arrival and put in the garbage can outside the cell.

Dr. Ferenc arrived shortly after my arrival and we examined Rodriguez together. The lighting was limited and it was difficult to see clearly, but according to Dr. Ferenc, there was some discoloration to Rodriguez' neck but he could not tell for sure if Rodriguez had been strangled. There were no petechiae



hemorrhages seen in Rodriguez' eyes. Tache Noire (post mortem changes in the eyes after death) was present in both eyes. Livor mortis was present on his back and appeared consistent with his position. It did blanch when we applied pressure to it. Rodriguez was warm to the touch. Rigor mortis was present in the extremities and did break with firm pressure. There was livor mortis along the front of his neck and collar bone area. There was a pinkish red discoloration to the hyoid bone area and a small scratch and abrasion on the right side of the neck. Rodriguez had very long fingernails and none of them were broken. The right pinky nail appeared slightly bruised on the outer corner of the nail where it connects to the skin.

The cell itself was a two inmate cell, which consisted of a bunk bed affixed to the wall. There was also an affixed steel toilet and sink. The cell was messy and unkempt. There was long dark colored hair scattered about the cell. It appeared to have belonged to Rodriguez. There was old food and garbage in the cell. The cell's walls had hand drawn occult like images on them. Deputy Beezley took photos of the scene and we prepared Rodriguez for transport to the Coroner's Bureau. Prior to our departure, I issued Coroner's receipt 38273 for Rodriguez and his clothing, and property he had at Santa Rita Jail. I provided Lieutenant Delbridge and Detective Lopez a copy.

At 2250 hours, we arrived to the Coroner's Bureau and processed Rodriguez into the morgue, which included intake photos. The photos were later downloaded onto a disk and added to the case file. I measured Rodriguez to be 69 inches tall and he weighed 135 lbs. He had black hair and brown eyes. With better lighting, I saw Rodriguez did have slight bruising to his neck, his right shoulder, and right hand where the wrist and front of the hand meet. There was also bruising to his elbows. There was bruising inside his upper lip on the right side. I called Detective Lopez and informed her of the noted injuries to Rodriguez. (RL1702)

On July 7, 2017, Dr. Ferenc performed a complete autopsy on Rodriguez and deferred his cause of death for toxicology results. (RL1702)

On July 17, 2017, Central Valley Toxicology performed a complete drug screen on the femoral blood sample obtained from Rodriguez during his autopsy. The screen revealed there were no common acidic, neutral or basic drugs detected. There was no ethyl alcohol detected. A copy of the report was added to the case file. (RL1702)

On July 25, 2017, Dr. Ferenc determined Rodriguez' cause of death was due to manual strangulation. Scalp contusion was listed as another significant condition. (RL1702)

On August 1, 2017, Dr. Ferenc's histological examination of muscle and soft tissue from Rodriguez' scalp contusion and neck hemorrhage, showed acute hemorrhage and no evidence of inflammatory response. (RL1702)

Findings:

On September 8, 2017, I reviewed this case to establish a manner in Rodriguez' death and to prepare this case for closure. Upon review of the case file and cause of death as given by Dr. Ferenc, I determined the manner was a homicide. Investigators of the Alameda County Sheriff's Office interviewed the suspect



and were able to obtain a confession to where the suspect admitted to manually strangling Rodriguez during a physical altercation. (RL1702)

Supervisor Review:

On Thursday, September 14, 2017, I (Sgt. Gonzalgo) reviewed this case and found it to be complete. I concur with the findings and approve this case for closure. (NLG5228)

Alameda County Sheriff's Office

Coroner's Bureau 2901 Peralta Oaks Court, 2nd Floor, Oakland, CA 94605-5319

Gregory J. Ahern, Sheriff

Director of Emergency Services Coroner - Marshal

MEMORANDUM

DATE:

July 7, 2017

FROM:

Michael Joseph Ferenc, M.D.

TO:

Case File 2017-02148

SUBJECT: AUTOPSY PROTOCOL

An autopsy was performed on the body of Antonio Rodriguez at the Coroner's Bureau, 2901 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, California, on July 7, 2017, at about 9:00 a.m.

FINDINGS

- 1) INJURIES
 - A. LEFT TEMPORAL SCALP CONTUSION
 - B. RIGHT ANTERIOR-LATERAL NECK ABRASION AND CONTUSION
 - C. FOCAL CONTUSIONS IN RIGHT STERNOCLEIDMASTOID MUSCLE
 - D. SMALL RIGHT THYROID CARTILAGE SUPERIOR HORN CONTUSION
 - E. MINOR EXTERNAL BLUNT INJURIES TO LIMBS AND TORSO
 - F. NO SIGNIFICANT INTERNAL CRANIAL OR TORSO INJURIES.
- TOXICOLOGY IS NON-CONTRIBUTORY (CVT-17-7112). 2)

CAUSE OF DEATH:

MANUAL STRANGULATION.

Other condition: SCALP CONTUSION.

District Attorney CC:



Sheriff-Coroner Alameda County

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Body of ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ

CIRCUMSTANCES OF DEATH

2 This 27 year-old gentleman was an inmate (PFN BGQ428) on

3 the behavioral health unit at the Santa Rita Jail. He was found

4 supine unresponsive on the floor of his cell partially covered

5 with a blanket. The cell door was open, and his roommate was

6 not present in the cell when he was found. He was pronounced

7 dead at the scene despite resuscitative measures. Minor

8 external trauma was seen most notably injuries on the right side

9 of his neck. At the time of autopsy, the law enforcement

10 investigation is still engoing.

11 His past medical history included schizophreniform disorder

12 and past substance abuse. His current medications included

13 haldol, olanzapine, sertraline, and zyprexa.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

15 The decedent is first cursorily examined at the scene of

16 death on 07/06/2017 at about 2100 hours. The scene is a two-

17 occupant small prison cell on a behavioral health unit at the

18 Santa Rita Jail. The decedent is a young thin man lying supine

of the floor of the cell with much of his clothing cut away and

20 evidence of medical resuscitation seen. Minor external injuries

21 are seen most notably faint contusions and abrasions on the

22 right side of his neck. No petechiae are appreciated in the

- 23 conjunctivae or gingivae. Rigor is slight to moderate. Livor
- 24 mortis is posterior, is moderate, and still blanches. The torso
- 25 and limbs are still warm to the touch.
- 26 Preliminary examination on 07/07/2017 shows the unembalmed
- 27 body of young man on a mortuary table. He is partially dressed
- 28 in green-stripped pajama-type pants and grey socks. A properly
- 29 labeled identification tag is on the right ankle. A plastic bag
- 30 of other clothing items is with the body. A cut-away brown tee
- 31 shirt is beneath him. A prison-type medical ID band is on his
- 32 left wrist.
- 33 Paper bags are on the hands. Fingernail clippings are
- 34 taken. Pulled head hair is taken.
- 35 RECENT INJURIES
- 36 Injuries to the head and neck: No external injuries to the
- 37 head are seen.
- Reflection of the scalp shows an about 1-1/2 x 1/2 inch.
- 39 1/8 to 1/4 inch thick, dark red-blue contusion to the soft
- 40 tissue and muscle in the left temporal area.
- 41 No skull fractures and no intracranial injuries are seen.
- The external neck is unremarkable except for a faint, red,
- 43 about 1/2 x 1/4 inch contusion on the anterior-right surface.
- 44 Above this is a linear, roughly transversely-oriented, $3/8 \times 10^{-3}$

- 45 1/16 inch, red abrasion.
- 46 Internally, along the right sternocleidomastoid muscle is
- 47 two, red-blue, 1/4 to 3/8 inch contusions. At the base of the
- 48 intact, right superior born of the thyroid cartilage in the soft
- 49 tissue and muscle is an about 1/8 inch, red-blue contusion.
- 50 No other evidence of injuries or hemorrhage is seen in the
- 51 anterior neck structures. A posterior neck incision does not
- 52 reveal any hemorrhage in the subcutaneous tissue or muscle.
- 53 Injuries to the torso: On the right upper back is a 5/8
- 54 inch red abrasion. Faint linear marking in the abrasion matches
- 55 the fabric weave pattern of the decedent's tee shirt.
- 56 No other external injuries to the torso are identified.
- 57 No internal injuries to the torse are identified.
- 58 Injuries to the limbs: On top of the right shoulder is a 1-
- 59 1/2 x 1 inch red-blue contusion and 3/4 inch red-brown abrasion.
- 60 On the lateral right elbow is a 1-1/4 inch red contusion and
- 61 a1/8 inch red-brown abrasion. On the back and inside of the
- 62 right elbow is a 1-1/2 inch patch of red-blue contusions. On
- 63 the inside of the right upper arm is a very faint, I inch blue
- 64 contusion. On the back of the right wrist is a 1-1/2 x 1 inch
- 65 faint red-blue contusion.

- In the subcutaneous tissue under the top of the left
- 67 shoulder is a 1/2 inch red-blue contusion. On the anterior left
- 68 wrist is a linear, 1/4 inch red abrasion. On the back of the
- 69 left wrist is a 1/8 inch purple-red contusion.
- 70 A 1/4 inch red-brown abrasion is on the right knee.
- 71 No other injuries to the limbs, including to limb fractures
- 72 on palpation and range of motion, are identified.
- 73 The injuries and findings described above are not repeated.
- 74 EXTERNAL EXAMINATION
- 75 The body of a well-developed, thin, medium-complexion,
- 76 young man is reported to be 27 years, 69 inches, and 135 pounds.
- 77 Rigor mortis is moderate. Livor mortis is moderate, posterior,
- 78 red blue, and fixed.
- 79 The head shows no significant scars. The hair is black
- 80 with rare grey, straight, and over 12 inches. A sparse
- 81 moustache and a chin beard are surrounded by beard stubble. The
- 82 eyelids, solerae, and conjunctivae show no hemorrhages. Focal
- 83 brown scleral drying is seen. The eyes are brown. The pupils
- 84 are roughly round and equal. The nose shows no significant
- 85 lesions. The mouth is otherwise unremarkable. An oral airway
- 86 is present. The teeth are in fair condition. The ears are
- 87 intact.

- The neck shows no significant scars. The chest shows no
- 89 significant scars. The breasts are of a man. The abdomen shows
- 90 no significant trauma or scars. Cardioversion pads are on the
- 91 torso. The genitalia are of a circumcised man.
- 92 The arms and forearms show no significant scars. The
- 93 hands, fingers, and fingernails are intact. The legs and feet
- 94 show no significant trauma or scars. An intraosseous catheter
- 95 is in the left shin.
- 96 The back shows no significant scars. The anus show no
- 97 hemorrhages, lesions, or discharge.
- 98 INTERNAL EXAMINATION
- 99 BODY WALLS AND CAVITIES: The subumbilical fat pad is about
- 100 1/2 inch. The subcutaneous and breast tissues show no lesions.
- 101 The pleural cavities are smooth and glistening, have no
- 102 significant adhesions, and contain minimal serous liquid. The
- 103 pericardial sac is intact. The mediastinum is unremarkable.
- 104 The diaphragm is intact. The peritoneal cavity shows no
- 105 significant adhesions and contains minimal serous liquid. The
- 106 major organs are normally positioned.
- 107 CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM: The epicardium is smooth and
- 108 clistening. The coronary arteries follow a balanced
- 109 distribution and show no atherosclerosis. A separate conus

- 110 artery ostium arises from the right coronary cusp. The heart is 111 The myocardium is red-brown, normal texture, and 112 uniform. The right ventricular free wall does not show any 113 significant increased fatty tissue or increased fibrous tissue. 114 The left and right ventricles are 1.0 to 1.2 and 0.2 cm, 115 respectively. The chambers are not dilated. The endocardium. 116 chordae, and papillary muscles are intact. The coronary sinus 117 ostium has a full translucent valve. The foramen ovale is 118 The atrioventricular and semilunar valves are normally 119 formed, show no lesions or vegetations, and are appropriate for 120 The aorta shows no atherosclerosis. The venae cavae and age. 121 great vessels show no thrombi or emboli.
- 122 PULMONARY SYSTEM: The right and left lungs are 350 and 250
 123 grams. The lungs are pink to tan to red, moderately well
 124 aerated, soft, and uniform with smooth glistening surfaces. The
 125 bronchi show no significant lesions. The mucosa is tan. The
 126 vessels show no significant thrombi or emboli.
- HEPATOBILITARY SYSTEM: The liver is normal texture, uniform

 128 with a smooth glistening capsule, red brown, and 1140 grams.

 129 The biliary tract is intact, and the gallbladder contains about

 130 15 mL of thin dark green bile. The pancreas is lobulated,

 131 normal texture, without focal lesions, and slightly congested.

152

132 HEMATOPOIETIC SYSTEM: The spleen is normal texture, 133 uniform with a smooth capsule, dark red, and 150 grams. The 134 thymus gland is unremarkable for age. The lymph nodes are not 135 significantly enlarged and show no lesions. The bone marrow of 136 the ribs and calvarium is unremarkable for age. 137 The oropharynx, esophagus, GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM: 138 The stomach contains about 150 mL of stomach show no lesions. 139 small fragments of bright orange, firm material consistent with 140 minimally digested uncooked carrots. No pills or granular material is seen. The duodenum, jejunum, ileum, and large bowel 141 show no mucosal, mural, or serosal lesions. 142 The mesentery is 143 intact. The appendix is present. 144 The adrenal glands are unremarkable. GENITOURINARY SYSTEM: The renal capsules strip with ease. Each kidney is 110 grams. 145 The cortices are normal thickness, normal texture, uniform, and 146 147 The calyces and collecting systems are not dark red brown. The pyramids and papillae are 148 dilated and show no lesions. 149 The ureters are patent to the bladder that contains about 150 mL of clear yellow urine. The bladder mucosa and wall 150 151 are unremarkable. The prostate gland is unremarkable for age.

The testes are unremarkable for age.

153 The muscles show no significant MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM: 154 diffuse lesions. The skeleton is well developed and appropriate 155 for age. 156 NERVOUS scalp is HEAD AND SYSTEM: The otherwise

157 The skull shows no fractures. The dura mater and unremarkable. 158 leptomeninges show no significant hemorrhages or lesions. 159 floor of the skull and dural sinuses are intact. The circle of 160 Willis shows no aneurysms and no significant atherosclerosis. 161 The brain is 1590 grams. The cerebral hemispheres, cerebellum, 162 and brain stem show no significant focal or diffuse lesions. 163 The grey and white matter, deep nuclei, cerebellar folia, and 164 brain stem show no significant diffuse or focal lesions. The 165 pituitary gland is intact.

166 ANTERIOR NECK STRUCTURES: The anterior neck muscles are 167 otherwise unremarkable. The thyroid gland is symmetrical, not 168 enlarged, normal texture, and red brown. The parathyroid glands 169 not identified. The laryngeal cartilages, 170 cartilage, and hyoid bone are intact. The cartilages are supple 171 and without discernible calcification. The tracheal, laryngeal 172 and epiglottic mucosa shows no lesions. The mucosa is tan. 173 tonque shows no hemorrhages on sectioning. The posterior 174 pharynx is not obstructed. The prevertebral fascia is intact.

Sheriff-Coroner Alameda County

Body of ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ

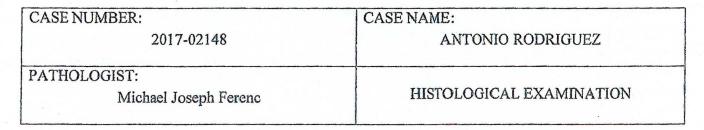
175	The cervical vertebrae are intact.
176	
177	SPECIMENS RETAINED: femoral vein blood, heart blood,
178	urine, vitreous humor, gastric contents, and liver. An expanded
179	toxicology screen is requested.
180	Representative tissue sections are retained in formalin.
181	Sections from the scalp contusion and muscle hemorrhage in the
182	right neck are submitted for processing.
183	OTHER STUDIES: None.
184	Any items of evidence collected are retained for police.
185	(Please refer to separate evidence log for details.)
186	
187 188 189	Michael Joseph Ferenc, M.D.

Alameda County Sheriff's Office

Coroner's Bureau 2901 Peralta Oaks Court, 2nd Floor, Oakland, CA 9460S-5319

Gregory J. Ahern, Sheriff

Director of Emergency Services Coroner - Marshal



Sections of muscle and soft tissues from the scalp contusion and neck hemorrhage show acute hemorrhage and no evidence of inflammatory response.

Date Signature M.D.



Case Name: Rodriguez,

TOXICOLOGY NUMBER: CVT-17-7112

Antonio 34 ml femoral blood & 30 ml urine each labeled "Rodriguez, Antonio; 2017-02148;

Specimen Description: 07/07/2017

Delivered by

Tricor

10-Jul-17

Received by

Bill Posey

Date 10-Jul-17

Request: Complete Drug Screen

Agency Case # 2017-02148

Requesting Agency

Alameda Co. Coroner's Office Attn: Acct's Payable 2901 Peralta Oaks Ct., 2nd Floor Oakland CA 94605

Report To

Alameda Co. Coroner's Office Attn: Dr. Ferenc 2901 Peralta Oaks Ct., 2nd Floor Oakland CA 94605

Specimen: Femoral Blood Sample

RESULTS

Complete Drug Screen: No common acidic, neutral or basic drugs detected. No Ethyl Alcohol detected.

2/21/17

B.L. POSEY S.N. KIMBLE Directors

1580 Tollhouse Road Clovis, California 93611 Phone (559) 323-9940 Fax (559) 323-7502

B. L. Posey

July 17, 2017